

Message Text

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SUBJECT:LETTER TO CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SENATE PRESIDENT

- AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASS TO STATUS LNO FOR DELIVERY TO PRESIDENT TOSIWO NAKAYAMA
AND SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE BETHWEL HENRY

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR BETHWEL AND TOSH:

THIS WILL BE MY LAST OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH YOU AND I
HOPE THAT YOU WILL SHARE THIS LETTER WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES IN
THE COM AND WITH OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED WITH ME OVER
THE PAST FEW YEARS IN A COMMON ENDEAVOR TO NEGOTIATE A
FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS ARRANGEMENT FOR MICRONESIA.

I TAKE LEAVE OF MY RESPONSIBILITIES WITH A FEELING THAT A
GREAT DEAL HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED. WHILE I REGRET THAT WE
FELL SOMEWHAT SHORT OF THE HOPE YOU EXPRESSED AT OUR APRIL
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MEETING THAT WE WOULD HAVE COMPLETED THE COMPACT IN TIME FOR

ITS SUBMISSION TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS NOW MEETING IN PONAPE, WE HAVE NEVERTHELESS NARROWED OUR WORK TO ONE REMAINING MAJOR ISSUE AND I CONSIDER THIS QUITE AN ACHIEVEMENT.

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAS PURSUED WITH GREAT DILIGENCE THE NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVE SET FORTH IN THE CONGRESS' FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION OF 1969--NAMELY FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES. THIS GOAL IS NOW CLEARLY IN SIGHT. THE U.S. CONSIDERS THAT THE INITIALLED COMPACT OF JUNE 2, 1976, IS COMPLETE EXCEPT FOR THOSE PROVISIONS DEALING WITH MICRONESIA'S OCEAN RESOURCES AND THOSE SECTIONS DEALING WITH THE LEVELS AND THE INTERNAL DIVISION AND ALLOCATION OF U.S. GRANT ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE FUTURE STATES OF MICRONESIA.

THE U.S. IS AWAITING PROPOSALS FROM SENATOR BAILEY OLTER'S COMMITTEE ON THE LATTER QUESTION AND IS EXPECTING TO HEAR THE FURTHER VIEWS OF THE COM'S SPECIAL ADVISOR ON LOS MATTERS, MR. FREDERICK WYLE, SOMETIME NEXT WEEK WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON. IT WOULD APPEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THE TIMETABLE THE TWO OF YOU AND LAZARUS AND EKPAP PROPOSED IN APRIL OF FINISHING THE COMPACT IN TIME FOR IT TO BE PUT TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA IN A PLEBISCITE THIS NOVEMBER CANNOT NOW BE REALIZED. IT MAY NOT EVEN BE FEASIBLE TO THINK OF A PLEBISCITE BEFORE NEXT SPRING--GIVEN THE NEED FOR ADEQUATE TIME FOR A THOROUGH AND OBJECTIVE POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM--TO ENABLE THE PEOPLE TO STUDY CAREFULLY AND TO CONSIDER THOROUGHLY THE ENTIRE CONTENT AND MEANING OF THE COMPACT BEFORE CASTING THEIR VOTES.

THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA ARE SOVEREIGN. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY QUESTION ABOUT THIS AND SOVEREIGNTY IS NOT NOW NOR HAS IT EVER BEEN AN ISSUE. THE RECORD CLEARLY SHOWS THAT AS FAR BACK AS THE HANA TALKS THE U.S. ACKNOWLEDGED THAT MICRONESIAN SOVEREIGNTY RESIDES IN THE PEOPLE, AND THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD AND WOULD ENJOY THE FULL RIGHTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION AS WELL AS THE FULL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SELF-GOVERNMENT. THE COMPACT, IN FACT, IS GROUNDED ON ALL THREE OF THESE PRINCIPLES AND ALL THREE ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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PROVIDED FOR AND PROTECTED BY THE TERMS OF THE INITIALLED COMPACT. IT FOLLOWS THAT THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION THEN, AS WELL AS THE FUTURE CONSTITUTION OF MICRONESIA, MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE AND THAT THE AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO BE VESTED IN THE U.S. AND THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS, FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE WILL INDEED FLOW FROM THE SOVEREIGNWILL OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

THIS IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE AXIOM SET FORTH IN THE 1969 FUTURE STATUS COMMISSION REPORT TO THE CONGRESS THAT "MICRONESIAN'S THEMSELVES MUST DECIDE WHAT THEIR OWN PUR-

POSE AND DESTINY SHOULD BE". IT IS ALSO TRUE TO THE DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS OF MY COUNTRY AND OUR STATEMENT REPEATED AT KOROR IN 1972 THAT "WE RESPECT THE UNDERSTANDABLE DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA TO REMAIN MICRONESIANS, TO BE FREE TO GOVERN THEIR OWN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, TO PRESERVE THEIR OWN DISTINCTIVE IDENTITY, TO PROTECT THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURE AND TO CONTROL THEIR OWN DESTINY".

IT IS NATURAL THAT I WOULD AT THIS TIME LOOK BACK TO SEE WHERE WE WERE IN 1971 AND HOW FAR WE HAVE COME DURING THE ENSUING YEARS TOWARD AN AGREEMENT THAT SATISFIES YOUR INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES AS WELL AS OURS. PERHAPS THE TWO BEST REFERENCE POINTS IN MEASURING WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IS THE JULY 1969 REPORT AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION COMPARED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE JUNE 2, 1976, INITIALLED COMPACT.

SELF-GOVERNMENT AND FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE U.S. WERE THE ESSENCE OF THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS. IN ADVOCATING FREE ASSOCIATION, THE COMMISSION STATED THAT WE SEEK "NOT AN END BUT A REDEFINITION, RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT" IN THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MICRONESIA AND THE UNITED STATES. "THE COMMISSION MAINTAINED THAT SELF-GOVERNMENT SHOULD INVOLVE THE DIRECT AND UNCONSTRAINED INVOLVEMENT OF THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE IN THE FORMATION OF THEIR GOVERNMENT AND, SPECIFICALLY IN THE PREPARATION, ADOPTION, AND SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT OF THE BASIC DOCUMENTS OF GOVERNMENT."

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CONTINUING, THE REPORT SAID "SELF-GOVERNMENT MEANS MICRONESIAN CONTROL OF ALL BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT, OF FUNDS, POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PERSONNEL. THE COMMISSION HAS REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED ITS HOPE FOR CONTINUED AMERICAN INTEREST AND PRESENCE IN MICRONESIA. THE BEST WAY TO ACCOM-

MODATE SUCH INTERESTS AND PRESENCE, HOWEVER, WOULD BE THROUGH THE CREATION OF A MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT, A GOVERNMENT BOTH RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE, WHICH WOULD BE FOUNDED ON THE RECOGNITION THAT 'THE BASIC OWNERSHIP OF THESE ISLANDS RESTS WITH MICRONESIANS AND SO DOES THE BASIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR GOVERNING THEM'."

HAVE THESE HOPES AND GOALS BEEN REALIZED? DOES THE INITI-

ALLED COMPACT PROVIDE FOR A "REDEFINITION, RENEWAL, AND IMPROVEMENT" IN THE PARTNERSHIP, DOES THE COMPACT ADEQUATELY SECURE FOR MICRONESIA THE RIGHTS OF SELF-GOVERNMENT, DOES THE COMPACT PROVIDE FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA IN THE FORMATION OF THEIR FUTURE GOVERNMENT,

DOES THE COMPACT ASSURE A CONTINUING AMERICAN INTEREST AND PRESENCE, AND FINALLY DOES THE COMPACT ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE OWNERSHIP OF MICRONESIA RESTS WITH MICRONESIANS?

I BELIEVE THAT THE ANSWERS TO EACH OF THESE VERY FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS IS CLEARLY YES AND THAT THE INITIALLED COMPACT IF APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE WOULD INDEED REPRESENT A REDEFINITION, AND A RENEWAL OF THE TIES BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES ALONG WITH THE PROMISE OF A MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL FUTURE RELATIONSHIP BASED ON CONTINUING FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL RESPECT. THE COMMISSION SAID FREE ASSOCIATION SHOULD BE A COMPACT BETWEEN FRIENDS, "WITH ALL THE LATITUDE, ESTEEM, AND CONCERN THAT FRIENDSHIP IMPLIES". THE SPIRIT UNDERLYING THE LANGUAGE OF THE INITIALLED COMPACT MEETS THIS CRITERIA.

THE COMMISSION SUGGESTED THAT AS A TEST OF THIS SPIRIT, MICRONESIA SHOULD CONTINUE TO LOOK TO AMERICA IN THE POST-TRUSTEESHIP PERIOD FOR MATERIAL AND HUMAN ASSISTANCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF GOVERNMENT, BOTH IN TIMES OF CRISIS AND IN DAY-UNCLASSIFIED

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TO-DAY OPERATIONS. IT STATED FURTHER THAT ITS FREE ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONGRESS AND TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA "RESTS UPON THE ASSUMPTION THAT AMERICA'S INTEREST IN AND SENSE OF OBLIGATION TOWARD MICRONESIA WILL NOT END WITH THE CREATION OF A SELF-GOVERNING MICRONESIA".

WHAT DOES THE COMPACT SHOW IN THIS REGARD? WITHOUT DETRACTING FROM THE GOAL OF PROGRESSIVELY WORKING TOWARD GREATER AND GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, THE COMPACT ASSURES CONTINUING U.S. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE FUTURE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND STATE GOVERNMENTS OF MICRONESIA WITH THE BULK OF THE FUNDS BEING RESERVED FOR SUPPORT OF DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. IT FURTHER PROVIDES NON-REPAYABLE CAPITAL FOR LOANS TO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL BUSINESS, AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES. THE COMPACT ASSURES THAT MICRONESIA CAN INDEED CONTINUE TO LOOK TO THE U.S. FOR MATERIAL HELP AS IT WORKS TO BUILD A STRONGER ECONOMIC BASE OF ITS OWN. CLEARLY THE U.S. SENSE OF WANTING TO HELP MICRONESIA WILL NOT END WITH THE TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AND THE COMING OF FULL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THIS IS ASSURED BY THE GENEROUS FINANCIAL TERMS OF THE COMPACT.

TURNING TO ANOTHER MEASUREMENT OF PROGRESS AND THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE INITIALLED COMPACT MEETS STANDARDS SET BY THE COM, LET US CONSIDER FOR A MOMENT THE FOUR PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN BY THE CONGRESS IN 1970 AS THE MINIMUMS WHICH HAD TO BE SATISFIED IN ANY FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS ARRANGEMENT

BETWEEN MICRONESIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE FIRST PRINCIPLE CALLING FOR MICRONESIAN SOVEREIGNTY HAS BEEN COVERED AND MET BY THE COMPACT. THE SECOND PRINCIPLE CALLING FOR SELF-DETERMINATION HAS NEVER BEEN AN ISSUE. THE THIRD PRINCIPLE CALLING FOR THE RIGHT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT UNDER A MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTION IS LIKEWISE ASSURED, AND FINALLY THE FOURTH PRINCIPLE--NAMESLY "THAT FREE ASSOCIATION SHOULD BE IN THE FORM OF A REVOCABLE COMPACT, TERMINABLE UNILATERALLY BY EITHER PARTY" IS ALSO PROVIDED FOR BY TITLE XI OF THE INITIALLED COMPACT.

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LAND HAS BEEN AND IS OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO MICRONESIANS AND IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE OUTSET THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AGREEMENT IN THE ABSENCE OF AN UNDERSTANDING AS TO WHO IN THE FUTURE WOULD HAVE CONTROL OVER MICRONESIAN LAND. THE U.S. QUICKLY ELIMINATED THIS QUESTION AS AN ISSUE AT THE 1971 HANA ROUND. IT STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT MICRONESIAN LAND BELONGS TO MICRONESIANS AND THAT ALL LAND HELD IN TRUST EITHER HAD OR WOULD BE TURNED OVER TO MICRONESIANS BEFORE OR AFTER THE TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP. IT FURTHER STATED THAT ANY ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR THE USE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR MILITARY OR OTHER PURPOSES IN THE FUTURE WOULD BE THROUGH NEGOTIATION. THE COMPACT IS CLEAR ON THIS SCORE. IT RECOGNIZES LOCAL CONTROL OVER LAND IN MICRONESIA, AND PROVIDES THAT NEGOTIATION FOR THE FUTURE USE OF LAND ARE TO BE CARRIED OUT AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL AND WITH THE RIGHTFUL HOLDER OF TITLE TO THE LAND FOR WHICH A LEASE MAY BE SOUGHT. THE U.S. FURTHER RECOGNIZES AND INDEED SUGGESTED EARLY IN THE TALKS THAT PROTECTIVE STEPS BE TAKEN BY MICRONESIA TO PREVENT THE ALIENATION OF MICRONESIAN LAND BY PROHIBITING NON-MICRONESIAN LAND OWNERSHIP. CLEARLY THE U.S. RECOGNIZES AND WISHES TO COOPERATE WITH MICRONESIA IN PROTECTING AND PRESERVING ITS SCARCE AND VALUABLE LAND NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

THIS IS THE "LOOK BACK" TO WHAT YOU HAVE SOUGHT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WHAT IS PROVIDED FOR IN THE INITIALLED COMPACT. I BELIEVE THAT ANY OBJECTIVE REVIEW WOULD COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT YOUR GOALS AS SET FORTH AND APPROVED BY YOUR CONGRESS ARE SATISFIED AND INCORPORATED IN THE INI-

TIALLED COMPACT EXCEPT FOR THOSE CONCERNING LOS MATTERS,
ISSUES WHICH ARE YET TO BE ADDRESSED.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE I SEE NO REASON WHY THE NEGOTIATIONS
LEADING TO FREE ASSOCIATION CANNOT BE BROUGHT TO A SUCCESS-
FUL CONCLUSION ASSUMING OF COURSE THAT YOUR OBJECTIVES AND
OURS REMAIN CLEAR AND CONSTANT--THAT IS FREE ASSOCIATION

BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF SHARED AUTHORITY AND RESPONSI-
BILITY FIRST AGREED UPON AT KOROR AND
REAFFIRMED MANY TIMES SINCE WITH THE LATEST AFFIRMATION
BEING SYMBOLIZED BY THE INITIALLING OF TITLES I, II AND III
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BY BOTH SIDES ON JUNE 2 OF THIS YEAR.

THE COMPACT, HOWEVER, CANNOT BE COMPLETED AS I MENTIONED IN
MY JULY 16 LETTER TO MR. AMARAICH IF THE BASIC UNDERLYING
PRINCIPLES AND PROVISIONS OF THE COMPACT CITED ABOVE ARE
TO BE PLACED IN LIMBO AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF PATIENT NEG-
OTIATION. FREE ASSOCIATION AS DEFINED INTERNATIONALLY AND
AS RECOGNIZED BY THE MICRONESIAN FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS
COMMISSION IS A FREE AND VOLUNTARY AND TERMINABLE RELATION-
SHIP BETWEEN A SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORY WITH A FULLY INDE-
PENDENT STATE. FREE ASSOCIATION BY DEFINITION IS NOT A
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TWO INDEPENDENT STATES. THUS MICRO-
NESIA CANNOT HAVE AN INDEPENDENCE AND FREE ASSOCIATION
STATUS SIMULTANEOUSLY.

TO ATTEMPT TO BLUR THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THESE TWO
STATUSES OR TO SEEK TO ENJOY ONE STATUS IN CERTAIN RESPECTS
AND THE OTHER STATUS IN OTHER RESPECTS WHEN IT IS MORE
ADVANTAGEOUS WILL ONLY CONFUSE THE PICTURE AND PREJUDICE IF
NOT PRECLUDE THE PROSPECTS OF EVENTUAL AGREEMENT. IN THIS
REGARD IT MAY WELL BE DESIRABLE FOR THE COM TO MAKE CERTAIN
THAT ITS MANDATE TO THE NEW JOINT COMMISSION ON FUTURE
STATUS AND TRANSITION IS CLEAR ON THIS SCORE. OBVIOUSLY
THE COMMISSION CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO FOLLOW ORDERS TO PRO-
CEED IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS SIMULTANEOUSLY TOWARD TWO
INCOMPATIBLE GOALS.

IF FREE ASSOCIATION REMAINS OUR CLEAR AND CONSTANT JOINT
OBJECTIVE, THE INITIALLED COMPACT AND THE MICRONESIAN CON-
STITUTION CAN BE MADE TO CO-EXIST AS EXPLAINED IN MY RECENT
LETTER TO THE NEW COMMISSION. IF THIS IS UNDERSTOOD AND
ACCEPTED THEN I REMAIN CONFIDENT THAT AN AGREEMENT, WHICH
WILL RECOGNIZE MICRONESIA'S BENEFICIAL RIGHTS TO ITS OCEAN
RESOURCES AND WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR THE PROTEC-
TION AND EXPLOITATION OF THESE RIGHTS FOR THE ECONOMIC
BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, CAN BE ARRIVED AT JUST

AS EARLIER AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED IN AREAS OF EQUALLY VITAL IMPORTANCE TO MICRONESIA. FURTHERMORE, I AM OPTIMISTIC THAT AN EQUITABLE FORMULA FOR THE DIVISION OF THE FUNDS TO BE PROVIDED ANNUALLY UNDER TITLE IV OTHER THAN THOSE DESIGNATED FOR THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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MAKING AVAILABLE COMMON AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, CAN BE DEvised TO MEET THE NEEDS OF FUNDING AT THE DISTRICT (STATE) AND LOCAL LEVELS. FINAL

AGREEMENT BY THE U.S. ON THE OVER-ALL LEVELS OF PROMISED ANNUAL FUNDING HAS OF COURSE HAD TO BE WITHHELD UNTIL THIS ISSUE WHICH IS SO IMPORTANT TO EACH OF THE DISTRICTS HAS BEEN RESOLVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF BOTH PARTIES TO THE COMPACT.

EVENTUALLY THE ULTIMATE QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT OUR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL WILL BE DECIDED BY THE PEOPLE. THE COMPACT IN DUE COURSE WILL BE PUT TO THE CRITICAL TEST OF PUBLIC OPINION BY THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN AN INTERNATIONALLY OBSERVED PLEBISCITE. AT STAKE WILL BE NOT ONLY THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION BUT ALSO THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE UNITY OF MICRONESIA. THE POSITION OF MY GOVERNMENT ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER REMAINS THE SAME. IT INTENDS TO PRESENT TO THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS, PONAPE, KUSAIE, TRUK, YAP AND PALAU AN OPPORTUNITY SIMULTANEOUSLY TO EXPRESS IN A FREE AND OPEN PLEBISCITE EITHER THEIR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION.

UNITY OF COURSE CANNOT BE IMPOSED OR LONG CONTINUED AGAINST THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE. THIS IS RECOGNIZED BY THE TERMS OF THE COMPACT. NEVERTHELESS THE U.S. INTENDS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND TO WORK COOPERATIVELY FOR UNITY IN MICRONESIA. IT BELIEVES THAT THE COMPACT IS A HIGHLY SUITABLE INSTRUMENT FOR THIS PURPOSE--BECAUSE OF THE ADVANTAGES AND THE PROTECTIONS IT HOLDS OUT FOR ALL OF THE FUTURE CITIZENS OF MICRONESIA IN TERMS OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE FUTURE RIGHTS AND WELFARE.

OF EVEN GREATER BEARING ON WHETHER OR NOT THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA WISH TO REMAIN UNITED IN THE FUTURE WILL BE THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTION SATISFIES THE WISHES OF THE MICRONESIAN ELECTORATE. THIS LATTER MATTER CONTINUES TO BE, AS IT HAS BEEN, AN INTERNAL MATTER. ITS OUTCOME, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT BEARING ON BOTH MICRONESIAN UNITY AND THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF MICRONESIA. IT WOULD THUS SEEM TO BE IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER AND UNCLASSIFIED

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WEIGH VERY CAREFULLY THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE CONSTITUTION AND YOUR GOAL AND PROSPECTS FOR UNITY AS WELL AS THE COMPATIBILITY OF THE COM'S LONG-HELD OBJECTIVE FOR ATTAINING FREE ASSOCIATION AND THE KIND OF FUTURE STATUS CALLED FOR BY THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA.

I AM NOT CERTAIN THAT I FORWARDED TO YOU COPIES OF MY SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA FOLLOWING THE END OF ROUND VIII. I AM THEREFORE ENCLOSING COPIES BECAUSE THIS MESSAGE REFLECTS MY VIEWS AS TO WHAT THE INITIALLED

COMPACT MEANS TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, MY OPTIMISM THAT FINAL AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED, MY ADMIRATION FOR THOSE MICRONESIANS WITH WHOM I HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO WORK AND FINALLY MY SINCERE CONCERN AND WARM AFFECTION FOR THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA WHOM I HAVE COME TO KNOW AND RESPECT.

AND NOW IN CLOSING LET ME EXTEND TO YOU BOTH AND TO YOUR COLLEAGUES UPON WHOM SO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY RESTS FOR THE FUTURE FATE AND WELFARE OF THEIR PEOPLE, MY VERY KINDEST REGARDS AND WARMEST BEST WISHES FOR NOW AND THE YEARS TO COME.

SINCERELY YOURS, F. HAYDN WILLIAMS, THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS.

END TEXT.

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